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Attorney Docket No. 55818 (70801)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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MAR 18 2004

Technology Center 2600

Applicant: T. Shibata et al.

Serial No.: 09/833,989

Group No.: 2626

Filed: April 12, 2001

Examiner: M. Nguyen

For: COMMUNICATION SYSTEM AND METHOD, AND STORAGE MEDIUM FOR THE SYSTEM

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office Addressee," Mailing Label No. EV438971125US, addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 15, 2003.

By: Michelle P. Chicos
Michelle P. Chicos

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Arlington, VA 22313-1450

Date: March 15, 2004

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, applicant(s) hereby submit(s) an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS OR OTHER INFORMATION

The patents, publications or other information submitted for consideration by the Office are listed on PTO-1449, attached hereto.

II. COPIES

- a. ☒ Submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each U.S and foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and (iii) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.

III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE
(check at least one box)

- a. ☒ Except as may be indicated below in (b), all of the patents, publications or other information are in the English language or were cited in an English language Search Report, a copy of which is attached hereto (concise explanation not required).
- b. ☒ A concise explanation of the relevance of all patents, publications or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows:

See English language abstract for references BA-BC.

- c. ☒ The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration:

These references were received in a Japanese Office Action dated February 17, 2004.

IV. THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)
(check one box)

- a. ☐ within three months of the filing date of a national application (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) (1)). No fee or certification is required.
- b. ☐ within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) (2)). No fee or certification is required.
- c. ☒ before the mailing date of a first Action on the merits (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) (3)). No fee or certification is required. In the event that a first Office Action on the merits has been issued, please consider this IDS under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) and see the certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) below, or, if no certification has been made, charge our deposit account a fee in the amount of \$180.00 as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

V. THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c):
(check one box)

before the mailing date of a Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) (1)) or before the mailing date of a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311 (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) (2)).

- a. ☐ No certification; therefore, a fee in the amount of \$180.00 is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

or

- b. ☐ See the certification below. No fee is required.

VI. THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d):
(check both boxes if applicable)

before payment of the Issue Fee (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)).

- a. ☐ See the certification below; and
- b. ☐ A fee in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

VII. CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) (check only one box)

The undersigned hereby certifies that

- a. ☒ each item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS; or
- b. ☐ no item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the best of my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
- c. ☐ Some of the items of information were cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office. As to this information, the undersigned certifies that each item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. As to the remaining information, the undersigned hereby certifies that no item of this remaining information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the best of my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 04-1105 in the amount of _____ for the above-indicated fee. A triplicate copy of this paper is attached.

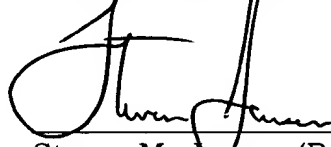


No fee is required.

However, if any fee is required, e.g., due to issuance of a Final Office Action, please charge the required fee to Deposit Account No. 04-1105, and consider this paper as a conditional petition under 37 CFR 1.97(d).

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this IDS, he/she is requested to contact the undersigned. If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule (with a petition, if necessary) and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 04-1105.

Respectfully submitted,



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Sheet 1 of 1

FORM PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

ATTY DOCKET NO.

55818(70801)

SERIAL NO.

09/833,989

APPLICANT(S): T. Shibata et al.

FILING DATE:

April 12, 2001

ART UNIT:

2626

UNITED STATES PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAM. INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILE DATE IF APPR

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Technology Center 2600

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLISHED DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRAN YES/NO
	BA	07-087292	03/1995	Japan			See English language abstract
	BB	04-035570	02/1992	Japan			See English language abstract
	BC	03-041874	02/1991	Japan			See English language abstract

OTHER DOCUMENTS (INCLUDING AUTHOR, TITLE, DATE, PERTINENT PAGES, ETC.)

Examiner:

Date: